

-New Center Will Provide Job Training to Area Residents, Promote Energy Efficiency-

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Hailing more federal funding coming to Athens, U.S. Rep. Zack Space (OH-18) and U.S. Rep. Charlie Wilson (OH-6) today jointly announced that nearly \$1 million from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act has been awarded to the Corporation for Ohio Appalachian Development to expand the weatherization training center in Athens. The Athens facility will train new workers from across Southeastern Ohio to fill emerging weatherization jobs.

“This funding is yet another critical investment in our region’s workforce,” said Space. “Training our neighbors in Southern Ohio to provide these important weatherization services will create jobs while saving Ohio’s working families money on their utility bills. This funding is great news for our region and a step in the right direction toward revitalizing our economy.”

“This is exactly what Congressman Space and I had hoped to see when we supported the Recovery Act,” Wilson said. “This investment in the training center will create highly skilled, good paying jobs in a self sustaining industry. In addition, the excellent work this group will do will ultimately save our country energy and save Ohio families money through lower utility bills.”

With the funding, the Corporation for Ohio Appalachian Development, Inc. will receive \$999,846 under a program that supports the development and expansion of weatherization training centers across the country. These training programs will support a range of public and private energy efficiency efforts, including the Department of Energy’s Weatherization Assistance Program, which has already funded the weatherization of nearly 200,000 homes since last February.

Congressman Space recently highlighted the potential afforded by energy efficiency at his most recent FIGHTING TO RENEW OHIO event, held at JELD-WEN’s window manufacturing plant in Mount Vernon.

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